

URBAN DISTRICT OF WOLVERTON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year
1 9 6 6

Principal Address of Medical Officer of Health:

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Medical Officer of Health

Chairman of the Council: Councillor F. W. Cornford, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor Lilian M. Johnson

Councillors: BUTTON, CAUSER, CORNFORD, CROOK, EYLES, HILTON,
HOWE, and WAKEFIELD


PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health: P. LAVIS
(M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)

(The Medical Officer of Health is also the M.O.H. for Buckingham M.B., and Buckingham R.D.C., Bletchley U.D.C., Newport Pagnell U.D.C. Newport Pagnell R.D.C., Winslow R.D.C. Area M.O. for North Bucks and Divisional School M.O. for the North Bucks Division and Buckingham and Winslow District)

Deputy M.O.H.: J. P. HUTCHBY,
M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Public Health Inspector: D. M. TUCKER, A.R.S.H.



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URBAN DISTRICT OF WOLVERTON

Council Offices,
Market Square,
Stony Stratford,
WOLVERTON,
Bucks.

5th June, 1967

Mr. Chairman, Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1966.

Vital Statistics

The figures presented vary little from last year, with only a slight increase in all rates. They show a community whose health is well up to present day standards in this country.

A variety of the common childhood infections invaded the town at the beginning of the year: chicken pox and mumps in particular. More troublesome was a german measles (rubella) outbreak which caused me some concern in view of the risk of this apparently mild condition to the expectant mother, at the beginning of her pregnancy. There are a number of children in the area severely handicapped as a result of this ante-natal exposure, and an effort was made to try and ensure that women in the first four months of pregnancy who were in contact with rubella, went to their private doctors. The publicity given was much wider than anticipated but it seems that many women accepted the advice and were given appropriate preventive treatment by their doctors. A follow-up study has been arranged so that any who missed this treatment, and who gave birth to babies "at risk", are screened for defects and offered appropriate help early.

The mobile chest radiography unit continues to visit the area and a special visit was made to the Wolverton Carriage and Wagon Works in June. 1,946 people were screened, nine required further investigation for various reasons, and not one case of tuberculosis was found.

Health Education

One of the main themes for the year's Health Education programme was "Safety in the Home". A display stand, featuring poisoning hazards and accident points was set up at Wolverton Market, that attracted the public's attention and I hope - thought. Miss Hanmer was responsible for the display, and manned it throughout the day. A special effort was also made to encourage schoolchildren (and their parents) on the value of "Foot Health." All this was reinforced by the Health visitors and Home Advisers.

A most encouraging report was received from the Ministry of Health that survey data was shown that the amount of smoking among adolescents was falling and that there had been a substantial drop in the proportion of cigarette smokers in men and women in recent years. It will, of course, take some time for this to be reflected in any fall in lung cancer deaths but one can feel that the effort put into anti-smoking propaganda is not entirely submerged by the advertising agents' appeal to "carry on smoking".

I must thank the Council and Public Health Committee for the interest shown in Public Health work.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

P. LAVIS

Medical Officer of Health

S E C T I O N A

VITAL STATISTICS	for the year	1966	1965
Area (in acres)		4,699	4,699
Population		13,450	13,150
Number of Inhabited Houses		4,885	4,804
Rateable Value (1st April)		£433,685	£402,844
Sum represented by 1d. Rate		1,790	1,728
Rate per £1		12/6	11/4

BIRTHS

Legitimate (Live):	Males	120	131
	Females	114	98
Illegitimate (Live):	Males	9	4
	Females	6	7
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population (adjusted)		22.0	21.8
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population, Bucks.			
County		18.9	19.6
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population, England			
and Wales		17.7	18.1
Still Births		4	3

DEATHS

Males	98	72
Females	77	70
Death Rate per 1,000 Population (adjusted)	11.0	9.9
Death Rate per 1,000 Population, Bucks		
County	9.2	8.9
Death Rate per 1,000 Population, England		
and Wales	11.7	11.5
Maternal Mortality	Nil	Nil

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

(Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births)

Wolverton	16.1.	4.2
Bucks County	15.9	14.9
England and Wales	19.0	19.0

	Males			Females		
	Total	Legit	Illegit	Total	Legit	Illegit
Live Births	129	120	9	120	114	6
Still Births	2	2	-	2	1	1
Deaths of Infants						
Under 1 year of age	3	3	-	1	1	-
Under 4 weeks of age	2	2	-	1	1	-
Under 1 week of age	2	2	-	1	1	-

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

					1966			1965		
					M	F	T	M	F	T
Tuberculosis (non-respiratory)					-	2	2	0	1	1
Cancer:										
Stomach	..	..	..	..	3	2	5	1	2	3
Lung, Bronchus			..	..	5	0	5	3	1	4
Breast	..	..	..	..	0	2	2	0	3	3
Uterus	..	..	..	..	0	5	5	0	1	1
Other	..	..	..	..	10	7	17	11	11	22
Diabetes					0	0	0	0	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system					19	10	29	7	18	25
Heart Diseases					34	30	64	28	20	48
Other Circulatory Diseases..					4	1	5	6	2	8
Pneumonia					7	3	10	4	2	6
Bronchitis					6	3	9	4	0	4
Influenza					1	0	1	0	0	0
Other Respiratory Diseases..					0	0	0	2	1	3
Congenital Malformations					0	1	1	0	1	1
Other Diseases					5	11	16	2	5	7
Accidents:										
Motor vehicle	..	..	..	..	1	0	1	3	0	3
Other	..	..	..	..	3	0	3	1	0	1
Suicide					0	2	2	2	2	4
Totals					98	79	177	74	72	146

S E C T I O N B

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

1. Ambulance Service

(Tel. Bletchley 2565) Administered by Bucks County Council. Main station at Bletchley with a Sub-station at Wolverton.

2. Hospitals

Under the Oxford Regional Hospital Board. Patients are generally treated at Northampton. Out patients facilities available at the Meacham Diagnostic Clinic at Wolverton. Appointments are arranged in the following specialities: Chest diseases, Surgical, Medical, Dermatological, Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Radiotherapy, Gynaecology. A physiotherapy clinic is also situated in Stony Stratford.

3. Laboratory

General Hospital, Northampton. (Tel. 34374)

4. District Nurses/Midwives:

Miss Warner (New Bradwell), Miss Gordon and Mrs. Bond (Stony Stratford), Miss Maud (Wolverton). Area Superintendent Mrs. A. M. Riley at Area Health Office.

5. Health Visitors

Superintendent - Mrs. D. L. Marett at Area Health Office, Bletchley. Wolverton: 122, Church Street, (Tel. 2320) - Mrs. Caves, Mrs. Taylor. The Health visitors work in collaboration with local general practitioners.

6. Social Workers

(Medical, Welfare, Blind, and Mental Health) Area Officer: - Mr. P. K. Smith at Area Health Office, Bletchley.

7. Home Help Service

Area Organiser - Mrs. H. R. L. Sephton. Assistant Organiser - Mrs. P. B. Schorr (Tel. Wolverton 2320)

8. Training Centres for the "Ineducable"

Adult and Junior at Bletchley.

9. Child Welfare Clinic

Held regularly at - Scouts Hall, Wolverton, Scouts Hall, Stony Stratford, and 109, Newport Road, New Bradwell, Welfare foods are available at each centre.

10. Dental Clinic

122a, Church Street. Treatment offered to children and expectant mothers.

11. Health Education

Area Organiser - Miss G. Hanmer at Area Health Office, Bletchley.

12. School Health Service

Administered from Area Health Office. This includes arrangements for examination of pupils in accordance with the Education Act, 1944, ascertainment of handicap and arranging for appropriate treatment. The Child Guidance Clinic is situated at Whalley Drive, Bletchley. B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis is carried out in the schools as well as booster doses of polio, diphtheria and tetanus antigens.

S E C T I O N C

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifications with comparative figures for 1965

	1966	1965
Scarlet fever	22	4
Measles	188	147
Pneumonia	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1
Whooping Cough	4	1
Sonne Dysentery	-	-
Virus Meningitis	-	-
Gastro Enteritis	-	-
Salmonella Infection	-	1
Erysipelas	2	-

Tuberculosis

Two cases were notified during the year.

S E C T I O N D

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

The Problem of Pollution of the Atmosphere:

Smoke Control Areas:

The Council has not declared any smoke control areas. With the advent of the New Town of Milton Keynes and the greatly increased residential and industrial development which will occur, this aspect of Public Health work must be kept under constant review.

Chimney Heights:

A chimney height which will ensure the adequate dispersal of noxious gases is always insisted upon. Very often the requirements of public health are in conflict with the desirable but aesthetic consideration of planning; there can be no compromise when the health of the community is at stake.

Industrialists must appreciate that there are available alternative fuels which do not add to the pollution of the atmosphere by sulphur dioxide and other noxious gases.

Pollution by exhaust gases:

The greatly increased number of motor vehicles on the roads today are the causative agent of a hazard to health. The amount of carbon monoxide in the atmosphere is increasing yearly.

It is hoped that it will soon be compulsory for every vehicle to be fitted with a fuel injection system or some other practicable method of preventing the excessive emission of carbon monoxide.

S E C T I O N E

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

1. Water

Water is supplied and distributed by the Bucks Water Board. 81 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and one was found to be unsatisfactory. It was found that the pollution was of a transient nature.

2. Public Cleansing

This is on a satisfactory basis.

3. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The attention of the Council is drawn to the fact that another year has passed and still there is not a proper sewage disposal system serving the Wealds of Calverton.

4. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The statutory report has been forwarded to the Ministry of Labour.

5. Housing

During the year 24 houses were represented as being unfit and were dealt with by being included in Clearance Areas, or treated as individual unfit houses.

S E C T I O N F

FOOD HYGIENE

1. General

The work of inspecting food premises has continued. Every effort is being made by your health department, to ensure that all food premises are conducted in accordance with the best principles of the hygienic handling of food. It was not found necessary to institute proceedings against any traders.

2. Bacteriological Sampling

A total of 155 samples of food were submitted for bacteriological examination, of which 20 were reported as being unsatisfactory. Where this occurred appropriate action was taken to ensure that any danger to health was prevented.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Details are given below of the type of foods voluntarily surrendered for destruction:-

Apricots	35 tins.	Orange Juice	1 tin
Apricot Jam	7 "	Ox Cheeks	2 lbs.
Baked Beans	2 "	Oxtail Soup	5 tins
Cherries	3 "	Peas	4 "
Chopped Ham	1 tin	Pears	79 "
Corned Beef	9 tins	Peaches	2 "
Creamed Rice	1 tin	Pineapple	21 "
Evaporated Milk	2 tins	Pilchards	19 "
Fruit Cocktail	17 "	Pork in Juice	3 "
Fruit Salad	12 "	Pork in Ham	1 tin
Garden Peas	9 "	Pressed Ham	3 tins
Grapefruit	37 "	Prunes	4 "
Grapefruit Juice	6 "	Puddings	2 "
Haddock Codlets	1 pkt.	Raspberries	3 "
Ham	12 "	Rice Puddings	19 "
Jam	1 jar	Salmon	12 "
Jellied Veal	2 tins	Shoulder of Ham	15 "
Kidney Soup	3 "	Sliced Peaches	95 "
Lambs Tongue	2 "	Steak & Kidney Pie	1 tin
Loganberries	5 "	Stewed Steak	9 tins
Luncheon meat	11 "	Strawberries	8 "
Milk	3 pints	Tomatoes	97 "
Minced Beef Loaf	4 tins	Tomato soup	5 "
Oranges	1 tin		

At a time of world shortage of food, consideration of the figures above are salutary. The greater percentage of this food is condemned because of can and container damage. It is hoped that a more robust package can be devised for the shipment and transport of food.

S E C T I O N G

PREScribed PArTICULARS ON ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Premises	Number on Register.	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupie Prosecu
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	16	2	-
(ii) Factories not in- cluded in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	42	24	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises)	2	2	-	-
TOTAL	51	42	2	-

Number of cases in which defects
were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
lacking standard of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
ventilation that is inadequate (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Con- veniences (S.7)					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	2	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	2	-

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